

October 4, 2022

## **VIA EMAIL**

Office of the Attorney General 202 North Ninth Street Richmond, VA 23219 foia@oag.state.va.us

Re: Virginia Freedom of Information Act Request

Dear FOIA Officer:

Pursuant to the Virginia Freedom of Information Act, Va. Code Ann. § 2.2-3700, I, Heather Sawyer, a resident of Virginia, make the following request for records.

## **Requested Records**

I request that the Office of the Attorney General produce the following records within five working days:

- 1. The resume or curriculum vitae (CV) submitted by any individual(s) hired or appointed to work within the Election Integrity Unit.
- 2. All records reflecting any formal or informal directive, order, advisory, memorandum, guidance, final assessment, report, or analysis regarding the Election Integrity Unit issued by Attorney General Jason Miyares, Chief Deputy Attorney General Chuck Slemp, Chief of Staff Darrell "D.J." Jordan, Jr., or Chief of External Affairs and Policy Klarke Kilgore.
- 3. Records sufficient to identify the relationship and relative rank of each position within the Election Integrity Unit, such as an organizational chart.
- 4. Records sufficient to identify any job openings within the Election Integrity Unit, including job descriptions and postings, if applicable.
- 5. Records sufficient to identify the Office of the Attorney General's actual or prospective budget for the Election Integrity Unit (including, but not limited to, relevant employee salaries and projected election investigation expenses).
- 6. Records sufficient to identify all costs and expenses incurred by the Election Integrity Unit (including, but not limited to, relevant employee payments and election investigation expenses).

- 7. All policies, guidelines, or procedures governing or reflecting the structure, purview, or operations of the Election Integrity Unit.
- 8. Records sufficient to identify the number of election investigations proposed or otherwise considered by the Virginia Attorney General's Election Integrity Unit, any categories or classification of proposal types, and the current disposition of each proposal.

Please provide all responsive records from September 9, 2022, through the date the search is conducted.

Please notify me of any anticipated fees or costs in excess of \$100 prior to incurring such costs or fee.

## Guidance Regarding the Search & Processing of Requested Records

In connection with its request for records, I provide the following guidance regarding the scope of the records sought and the search and processing of records:

- Please search all locations and systems likely to have responsive records, regardless of format, medium, or physical characteristics.
- In conducting your search, please understand the terms "record," "document," and "information" in their broadest sense, to include any written, typed, recorded, graphic, printed, or audio material of any kind. I seek records of any kind, including electronic records, audiotapes, videotapes, and photographs, as well as letters, emails, facsimiles, telephone messages, voice mail messages and transcripts, notes, or minutes of any meetings, telephone conversations or discussions.
- My request for records includes any attachments to those records or other materials enclosed with those records when they were previously transmitted. To the extent that an email is responsive to this request, this request includes all prior messages sent or received in that email chain, as well as any attachments to the email.
- Please search all relevant records or systems containing records regarding agency business. Do not exclude records regarding agency business contained in files, email accounts, or devices in the personal custody of your officials, such as personal email accounts or text messages.
- In the event some portions of the requested records are properly exempt from disclosure, please disclose any reasonably segregable non-exempt portions of the requested records. If a request is denied in whole, please state specifically why it is not reasonable to segregate portions of the record for release.
- Please take appropriate steps to ensure that records responsive to this request are not deleted by the agency before the completion of processing for this

request. If records potentially responsive to this request are likely to be located on systems where they are subject to potential deletion, including on a scheduled basis, please take steps to prevent that deletion, including, as appropriate, by instituting a litigation hold on those records.

If you have any questions regarding how to construe this request for records or believe that further discussions regarding search and processing would facilitate a more efficient production of records of interest to me, please do not hesitate to reach out to my representative at the contact information listed below to discuss this request. We welcome an opportunity to discuss this request with you before you undertake your search or incur search or duplication costs. By working together at the outset, we can decrease the likelihood of costly and time-consuming litigation in the future.

Where possible, please provide responsive material in an electronic format by email to the address listed below. Alternatively, please provide responsive material in native format or in PDF format on a USB drive. Please send any responsive material being sent by mail to Heather Sawyer, c/o American Oversight, 1030 15th Street NW, Suite B255, Washington, DC 20005. If it will accelerate release of responsive records to American Oversight, please also provide responsive material on a rolling basis.

## **Conclusion**

We share a common mission to promote transparency in government. I look forward to working with your agency on this request. If you do not understand any part of this request, please contact Rachel Baron at <a href="mailto:records@americanoversight.org">records@americanoversight.org</a> or (202) 897-2465.

Sincerely,

<u>/s/ Heather Sawyer</u> Heather Sawyer